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# The Almagest

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FEB 16 1996

LSU SHREVEPORT

Thursday, February 8, 1996

LSU in Shreveport

Volume 29, Number 2

## Homecoming Games Postponed

Brian Allen  
Almagest

The past weekend's ice storms led to postponement of the homecoming basketball games originally scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 3.

The games have been rescheduled for Thursday, Feb. 15 with new opponents for both the Pilots and Lady Pilots. Athletic Director Larry Rambin said it was not possible to reschedule Sul Ross University, the original homecoming opponent. Rambin said Sul Ross's schedule was just too full for them to plan another trip to LSUS.

But the season must continue, and a season without a homecoming seemed a rather empty prospect for the players. The Pilots have flourished in the H.P.E. Building, posting a 5-2 home record. Every home game takes on an important meaning as the Pilots get better at defending the homefront. At 7-11, the Pilots have a true freshman sensation in one Larry Hall, a forward whose 26.3 points per game have him

fourth in NAIA Division II in scoring. The Pilots take the court at 7:30 p.m. against Southwest Adventist College. A previously scheduled road game against Southwest was cancelled by the winter storm, so these teams have a little extra time to prepare for one another.

The season has been a hard one so far for the Lady Pilots.

An eligibility oversight cost the team its second leading scorer, and what were its only three wins at the time. Tren Reed had not yet taken the ACT, and her 3.3 GPA did not place her in the top half of her graduating class. These are two of the three requirements to play NAIA Division II basketball. The Lady Pilots lost their first game without Reed, but bounced back from that defeat to hammer the Rust College Lady Bearcats 86-55. The Lady Pilots face Williams Baptist College at 5:30 p.m. in a game originally scheduled for last Wednesday. Williams called last week with the news that they were iced in and would not be able to make the trip.

## PRSSA sponsors workshop

Viki Panos  
Almagest

Nationally known speaker and author, Dr. Kathleen Kelley, will speak at a public relations and fundraising workshop being held at LSUS. The workshop will be in the Caddo-Bossier Room in the University Center from 1-3 p.m., Monday, Feb. 12. Dr. Kelley, a member of the national PRSA Board and a Professor of Communication, will lecture on the topic of Fundraising and Public Relations: A Critical Analysis.

The workshop is being sponsored by the LSUS chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America in conjunction with the local chapters of the National Society of Fundraising Executives and Public Relations Society of America.

Jay Meyers of the Biomedical Research Foundation says that he hopes the workshop will "inform not

only practitioners, but also students, of how closely public relations and fundraising are related."

Meyers also states that the workshop will be beneficial to not only communications students, but those whose future jobs may require them to work with someone in public relations or fundraising. He says that knowing how to integrate the two fields "will make for a more effective organization."

Students who wish to attend the lecture should contact Dr. Linda Martin in BH354, or call her at 797-5340. Limited seating is offered for students at no charge; however, pre-registration with Dr. Martin is necessary to insure a seat. The cost for all other participants is \$10.

At the conclusion of the workshop, a thirty minute discussion session will take place with Dr. Kelley and a small group of 12 students and practitioners.

## Winter storm shuts down campus, Ark-La-Tex

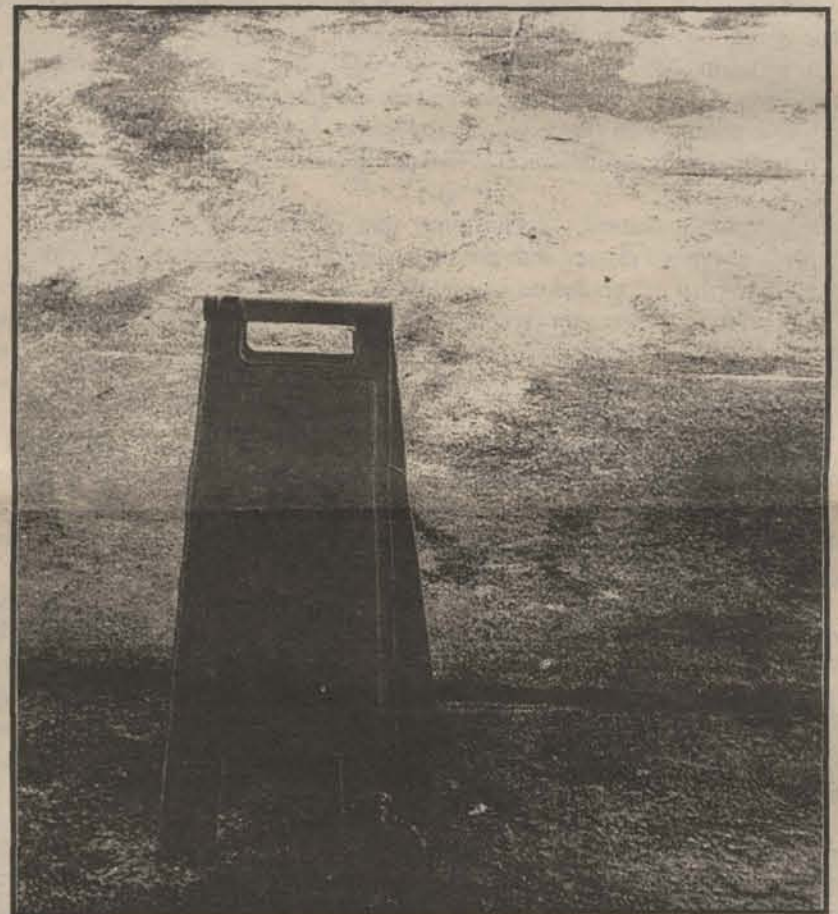


photo by Rita Uotila

No 'Caution: Slippery Ice' sign? No problem. LSUS maintenance workers improvise to warn students about hazardous sidewalks. Campus closed Feb. 1-2 due to winter weather.

## LSUS - SU initiative formed

Anna Maria Sangalli  
Almagest

The chairman of the Department of Psychology is calling for area colleges to band together against violence.

LSU and SU students United Against Violence was formed in the fall of 1995 to prevent substance and its associated violence. Professor Bob Benefield would like to see a similar initiative created between LSUS, Centenary, BPCC, and SUSBO.

"I endorse this opportunity for higher education in our community to connect and collaborate in an effort to reduce violence," Benefield said in a press release. "I am hopeful that the

faculty and staff senates and the SGA will unite and reach out to the other institutions..."

LSU and Southern's organization was launched in October with a ceremony at the Baton Rouge Centroplex. Two planning bodies were formed to discuss problems and exchange solutions. Educational, social, and community service events are held throughout the year.

"This is a promising opportunity for the community to join together and help those who have been a victim of violence or abuse," said E.J. Holt, professor of psychology at LSUS. "It's a community effort that I strongly support."



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# The Almagest

To Keep Students Informed  
Office No. 797-5328

Member: Southeastern Journalism Conference,  
American College Press Association,  
Columbia Scholastic Press Association

## Caddo ranking system unfair

Caddo Parish high schools with magnet or honors curriculums have an inherently unfair system for ranking their graduating seniors.

The problem begins with the disparate grading scales for general students and magnet students. Students taking general classes are graded on the 4.0 scale. An 'A' is worth four points, a 'B' three points, and so on. Magnet students have a 5.0 scale. When they make an 'A' they receive five points and on down. An 'F' for them is still worth zero.

To complicate matters, students may mix curriculums. General students may advance into honors classes with the higher grading scale and magnet students may take electives that are graded on the 4.0 scale.

From semester to semester, according to what classes he or she may take, each student could have a different total possible grade point average. When mixing classes, it is necessary for each student to calculate his or her own possible best, instead of using the 4.0 or 5.0 scales.

While complicated, this doesn't cause the problem. It only causes extra math. The problem is when these students graduate. I recently spoke with the senior counselor for a Caddo high school. She confirmed this: When graduates are ranked from first to last, they are done so according to their own personal cumulative GPA and are not segregated according to which program they are in.

This may not seem like much, but it gives a huge advantage to the magnet students and places the general students at an equally large disadvantage. Consider this hypothetical situation:

A local high school with both magnet and general programs. They are equally divided in number of students. We will assume that the grades of the general students follow the normal bell curve. We will also make the reasonable assumption that the magnet student's grades will be shifted somewhat to the right on the bell curve.

A general student making a solid 'B' average of 3.0 is one full GPA point behind a 'B' magnet student and two behind an 'A' student. Some would argue that this is only right because of the difficulty of their respective course work. I agree. Grades should be given according to how each student performs. The number of points you assign doesn't matter. What is important is that if you grade each student according to the difficulty of their individual classes, then you should rank them the same way.

The unfairness lies in ranking the class as a whole. The solid 'B' general student is probably in the top third of the class with respect to other general students. But when included and compared to the magnet students, the same general student could easily get pushed to the middle of the class or even further back. This isn't fair.

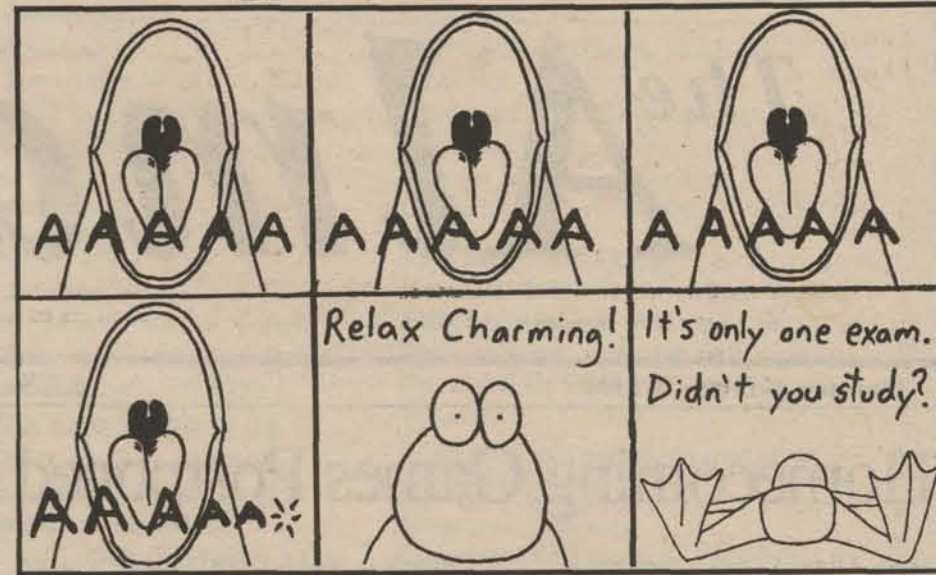
Many colleges and programs may have selective requirements concerning class ranking for incoming students. General students coming from a Caddo Parish high school that has a magnet program are at a disadvantage. There is nothing wrong with recognizing the difficulty of any particular curriculum. That is what magnet schools are for. Magnet programs, however, mixed with general programs may just be a fancy form of academic discrimination.

Flynn Dulle  
Editor

### Letters Policy

The Almagest requests your reactions through Letters to the Editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your class and major field of study. Letters should be submitted to The Almagest office, BH 344, by noon on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed. The Almagest reserves the right to edit letters.

## Charming! by Flynn Dulle



### Letter to the Editor:

## Student wants U.S. military out of 'peacekeeping' role

Today we live in a world that is not very much different from any time on the modern age. Countries are at war all over the planet, both internally with civil conflict and externally with their neighbors. Since the beginning of this century our nations has taken the leadership role of mediator. The "world policeman," if you will. It started with President Wilson and his attempted League of Nations, which was an early version of the United Nations. Since that time, our presidents have had enormous responsibilities. They must have unquestioned leadership ability personally, and they also must appoint the most capable leaders possible to head vital parts in the cabinet. Foreign policy is an area that is vital to our national security. It is no place for on the job training, and that has been precisely the case since our current President, Bill Clinton, took office. At times, even former President Carter has had to step in and assume his responsibilities, as in the situation we faced in Haiti.

Early in 1993 Bill Clinton appointed Les Aspin to the position of Secretary of defense. With respect to the late Mr. Aspin, Clinton appointed this man to a position which is of life and death consequence. Mr. Aspin was a long time congressman, and served on Committees dealing with defense issues. His record was one of constantly trying to cut our defense as much as possible. My point is that a poor decision was made in his appointment, due to Bill Clinton's lack of experience in foreign policy. My point proven with the deaths of my comrades in October 1993 in Somalia. Aspin refused a last hour request for equipment needed to defend our forces made by the Commanding general of American Forces. By the way, Aspin was forced to resign shortly afterwards under heavy criticism. The battlefield is no place for politics. Let's look at another matter which faces us today.

The American death toll in the Balkans has begun. We do not owe any European country a dime, and most certainly not the lives of our volunteer military. Even former-president Carter called this involvement an "embarrassment" in January 1996 on a televised banquet aired on C-SPAN. What gives a man who tucked his tail and ran when his country called upon him for help the right to send members of our military to their graves? We have absolutely no national security interests in that region. Are the European countries calloused to the blood shed happening in the own backyard? Let, them deal with it. With our national debt we surely afford to waste resources on something like a civil war in Bosnia Herzegovina that will have no affect on us either way it turns out.

This is a very important year for us. An election approaches which will directly mean life of death for our citizens. Listen and pay close attention to the candidates in reference to their foreign policy. We, in the future, must shift the social issues to the people because government legislation will not bring us closer together, we must do this before casting your ballot for a smooth talking politician with no experience in foreign policy. The life of someone close to you may be at stake.

Robert Biggs  
Business Major



# Northern student surprised

Brittany Manson  
Almagest

Changing weather is not unusual for the Shreveport-Bossier City area, but the recent ice storm proved to be an alarming event to most area residents.

Being from the state of Illinois, I was not a bit surprised by the sudden downpouring of freezing rain. It is extremely unusual if it does not ice and snow at least two dozen times during winter. I was surprised it did not occur earlier in the season. In Illinois, it is expected.

However, most people living in this area do not have first hand experience dealing with ice storms like the one we had last Thursday. Many residents were found going into Albertson's stocking up on food because they were not exactly sure when they were going to be able to go outside the house again. Broadmoor resident Jessica Monk went to her neighborhood Albertson's having to only purchase a few items. She thought it would only take her

about fifteen minutes, but it ended up taking her almost two hours due to everyone stocking up on their provisions.

I found this ridiculous because I figured it would fall, stay on the ground for a day or two, and then it would melt away. Usually when ice or snow falls, salt is immediately laid down to speed up the melting process. With the case of this storm, sand was laid down instead of salt, but it produced the same result. The ice stayed around for awhile and then melted. That is the end of the story. Still some parents deemed it necessary to call their children and warn them of the impending storm. LSUS student Mary Willis's mother called her and recommended certain friends she could stay with should the storm turn off the electricity for a week or two.

It seemed like this was the first time anyone in Louisiana had been around ice and they were not exactly sure what to do with it. If you would just be careful of what you are doing and watchful of what other people are doing, then ice is not a big problem.



photo by Rita Uotila

Ice slowly melts in the Monday morning sun.

## Meet your Chancellor!

All students are invited to join

Chancellor Vince Marsala for:

# Chancellor's Coffee

in the University Center, Louisiana Room A & B

February 13, March 12, and April 9

## Do you need a reason to join the Louisiana National Guard?

Well, here are some very good ones—



**PAID COLLEGE TUITION**—Pays 100% of college tuition at any state funded college, university or vocational/technical school for 5 years or a Bachelors degree, whichever comes first.

**MONTGOMERY GI BILL**—Provides college assistance of up to \$190 a month for 36 college months of entitlement paid directly to you by the Veterans Administration.

**PART-TIME JOB**—In the Louisiana Army National Guard, you'll train one weekend a month and two weeks each summer after basic and Advanced Training. The pay is great and so are the benefits.

**TO QUALIFY:**  
BE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 17 and 35  
MEET ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

## SPLIT TRAINING PROGRAM

Split training means that your Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training in the National Guard (which must be completed within a twelve (12) month time frame) can be staggered to fit your personal schedule.

For example, you can take Basic Training the summer of your junior year. Consider it a paid full-time summer job. During your senior year of high school, you will go to the monthly National Guard meetings. Consider it a paid part-time job. Then you can take your Advanced Individual Training the next summer, be paid for that too, and be home in time to attend college, business or vocational school in September. That's two summers of full-time employment, and two years of part-time employment.

CALL YOUR LOCAL NATIONAL GUARD RECRUITER:



SFC STUART A. BRIANT  
(318) 424-7147



## RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS



## SUMMER SCHOOL FOR PEOPLE ON THEIR WAY TO THE TOP.

If you didn't sign up for ROTC as a freshman or sophomore, you can still catch up to your classmates by attending Army ROTC Camp Challenge, a paid six-week summer course in leadership training

By the time you have graduated from college, you'll have the credentials of an Army officer. You'll also have the self-confidence and discipline it takes to succeed in college and beyond.



**ARMY ROTC**

THE SMARTEST COLLEGE COURSE YOU CAN TAKE.

For details, visit room 128, Bronson Hall, 797-5265 or call Captain Doyle at 1-800-217-6045



# Beer brewing to be taught

As the commercial goes..."Do you love beer?" If you are a beer lover and have always wanted to learn more about beer or have ever had an interest in brewing your own, now's your chance.

The LSUS Continuing Education Department is offering a course in Homebrewing.



The course cost \$65. Classes will meet in the Business Education building in room 343, Thursday nights, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. from February 15 to March 14.

The class has a limited capacity so pre-registration is necessary. Register as soon as possible. Registration forms are available in Bronson Hall room 123.

The course will be taught by Bob Carbone, member of the Homebrewers Association. Carbone holds degrees in Chemistry and Physics. He was recently awarded the Certificate of Merit at the 1993 Southern California Regional Homebrew Championship.

The five class meetings will have an expansive curriculum. Included will be: the history of beer, pouring homebrew, basic ingredients, varieties of malt, hops, yeast, and fermentation techniques, beer styles, brewing, bottling, equipment needed, procedures, blind taste tests and judging homebrew.

## 1995-1996 COLLEGE

## WRITING CONTEST

**CATEGORIES:** Short Story, Poetry, Personal Essay, Persuasive Essay, Documented Research Paper, Newspaper Feature Article.

**DEADLINE:** March 1, 1996

To pick up an application and further contest rules, come by the Almagest office RM 344, Bronson Hall

Want good resume material?

Want to improve your writing skills?

Want to know what's happening on campus?

Join the *Almagest* staff!

Come by room 344 in Bronson Hall for details...

**Nursery workers needed.**  
4 positions available. Sunday and some weeknights.  
\$4.75\ hr.  
Call 798-6746

**LSUS CAMPUS MINISTRY**  
"Where everyone matters."

**EVERY TUESDAY**  
**10:30 AM**

**Captain's Room**  
**University Center**

All members of the campus community, including students, faculty, and staff, are invited to gather for fellowship, spiritual nurture, and opportunities for Christian service.

For more information contact:

**Dan Fultz 869-5024**

# Campus Calendar

## THURSDAY, Feb 8

International Club Meeting

RESCHEDULED

10:30 a.m. Foreign Language Media Center

POETRY READING

sponsored by LSUS Community of Writers. guest :Dr. Herbert R. Coursen

10:30 a.m. BH 101

SHAKESPEARE'S POETRY on FILM

sponsored by LSUS and Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities.

guest :Dr. Herbert R. Coursen

7:00 p.m. BH 101

ZETA TAU ALPHA

University Center 10:30 a.m. for more info, call: 679-1687

## SATURDAY, Feb 10

ACT Testing RESCHEDULED Feb 10 for more info. call 797-5306

NTE RESCHEDULED Feb 17 for more info. call 797-5306

"Jesus, Lincoln, and Beethoven: Three Notes on the Same Grand Chord" by James Chowning Davies- Social Scientist

Free Lecture, 10:00 a.m. UC Louisiana Ballroom

## MONDAY, Feb 12

PUBLIC RELATIONS & FUNDRAISING

Workshopsponsored by PRSSA

guest : Dr. Kathleen Kelley

1 - 3 p.m. University Center Caddo-Bossier Room

Limited seating, register with Dr. Martin BH354, 797-5340

# Attention LSUS Students!

❖ Want to be more involved in school?

❖ Want to meet new people?

❖ Need some great resume material?

Well good news!

**SGA elections are being held the week of March 18- 22.**

If you would like to run for College Senator pick up an application in room 232 at the University Center.

**Deadline to turn in your application is March 4th.**